

**CLAIMS**

1. Wax dispersion with an average particle size of 0.5 to 100 µm containing
  - 5 (a) a wax phase with a melting point above 25°C which contains at least one oil or wax component selected from dialkyl(ene) ethers, dialkyl(ene) carbonates, dicarboxylic acids or hydroxyfatty alcohols or a mixture of these substances and at least one emulsifier and
  - (b) water phase.
- 10 2. Wax dispersion as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that it contains
  - (a) 1 to 75% by weight of a wax phase which contains at least one oil or
  - 15 wax component selected from dialkyl(ene) ethers, dialkyl(ene) carbonates, dicarboxylic acids or hydroxyfatty alcohols or a mixture of these substances and at least one emulsifier and
  - (b) 25 to 99% by weight of a water phase,
- 20 based on the overall composition.
3. Wax dispersion as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 2, characterized in that the wax phase contains at least one emulsifier selected from the group of nonionic emulsifiers.
- 25 4. Wax dispersion as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the wax phase melts at ca. 35 to 50°C.
- 30 5. Wax dispersion as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the wax dispersion contains particles with an average

particle size of 1 to 50 µm and preferably 5 to 30 µm.

6. Wax dispersion as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the wax phase contains at least one other wax-like 5 lipid component.

7. Wax dispersion as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that the other wax-like lipid component is selected from C<sub>12-24</sub> fatty alcohols, mono-, di- or triesters of glycerol and C<sub>12-24</sub> fatty acids, mono- or diesters of ethylene 10 glycol and C<sub>12-24</sub> fatty acids or mixtures thereof.

8. Wax dispersion as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that the wax phase additionally contains at least one other oil component.

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9. Wax dispersion as claimed in any of claims 1 to 8, characterized in that it contains 1 to 50% by weight of a wax phase which contains

20 (a1) 0.1 to 30% by weight of at least one oil or wax component selected from C<sub>14-30</sub> dialkyl(ene) ethers, C<sub>14-30</sub> dialkyl(ene) carbonates, C<sub>9-34</sub> dicarboxylic acids or C<sub>12-30</sub> hydroxyfatty alcohols or a mixture of these substances,

(a2) 0.1 to 10% by weight of at least one oil,

(a3) 0.1 to 10% by weight of at least one nonionic emulsifier,

25 (a4) 0.1 to 40% by weight of at least one other wax-like lipid component, based on the overall composition of the wax dispersion, and

(b) 50 to 99% by weight of a water phase, based on the overall composition of the wax dispersion.

30 10. Wax dispersion as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 9,

characterized in that it additionally contains at least one polymer, preferably in a quantity of 0.01 to 5.0% by weight, based on the wax dispersion.

11. Wax dispersion as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 10,  
5 characterized in that the polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, polysaccharides, polyacrylamides or a mixture of these polymers.

12. Wax dispersion as claimed in any of claims 1 to 11, characterized in  
10 that the wax phase additionally contains at least one active component.

13. Wax dispersion as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 12,  
characterized in that it additionally contains at least one humectant.

15 14. A process for the production of a wax dispersion with an average particle size of 0.5 to 100 µm, characterized in that a preliminary emulsion of the wax phase containing a water phase is prepared and the resulting preliminary emulsion, which has a temperature above the melting range of the waxes, is introduced under pressure into a polymer-containing water phase which has a temperature of 1 to 30°C.  
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15. A process as claimed in claim 14, characterized in that the preliminary emulsion is homogenized at least once in an intermediate step before it is introduced into the water phase.

25 16. A process as claimed in at least one of claims 14 to 15, characterized in that the preliminary emulsion is cooled in a heat exchanger before it is introduced into the water phase.

30 17. A process as claimed in at least one of claims 14 to 16,

characterized in that the preliminary emulsion also contains a polymer.

18. A process as claimed in at least one of claims 14 to 17, characterized in that the polymer is selected from the group consisting of  
5 polyacrylates, polysaccharides, polyacrylamides or a mixture of these polymers.

19. A process for the production of a wax dispersion as claimed in at least one of claims 14 to 18, characterized in that the preliminary emulsion  
10 is sprayed under pressure into the water phase through a nozzle.

20. A process as claimed in at least one of claims 14 to 19, characterized in that the wax phase contains at least one oil or wax component selected from dialkyl(ene) ethers, dialkyl(ene) carbonates,  
15 dicarboxylic acids or hydroxyfatty alcohols or a mixture of these substances and at least one emulsifier.

21. A process as claimed in at least one of claims 14 to 20, characterized in that the wax phase has a melting point above 25°C.  
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22. A process as claimed in at least one of claims 14 to 21, characterized in that the resulting wax dispersion contains

25 (a) 1 to 75% by weight of a wax phase and  
(b) 25 to 99% by weight of a water phase,

based on the overall composition.

23. The use of the wax dispersion claimed in any of claims 1 to 13 as a  
30 body care preparation or for the production of body care preparations.